Non revision of pension of ESSO Employees

3581. SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has signed an agreement with the ESSO assuring continuity of service conditions to its employees;

(b) if so, what are the reasons for which the Dearness Supplement of pensioners was freezed from 1974 to 1983;

(c) whether it is also a fact that during the 14 years' period of Government take over of the company the basic pension of its pensioners was not revised;

(d) whether it is also a fact that when all Government pensioners enjoy 100 per cent DA relief upto a pension of Rs. 1750 the ESSO pensioners are subjected to a ceiling on Dearness Relief at Rs. 500;

(e) whether it is also a fact that non-management pensioners are denied the facility to commute pension, while the management pensioners are given commutation facility; and

(f) if so, what are the reasons for not applying the Fourth Commission's recommendations in favour of the ESSO pensioners even after Government have taken over the company?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) Government of India took over the right, title and interest of ESSO in relation to its undertaking in India in March, 1974. The takeover act provided that every employee of the erstwhile ESSO shall hold office or service on the same terms and conditions and with the same rights to pension, gratuity and other matters as would have been admissible to him if there had been no such takeover;

(b) The erstwhile ESSO's India Pension Plan did not contain a specific scheme for granting pension supplements: therefore, the question of freezing such payment did not arise.

(c) and (d) The basic pension for the pensioners of the erstwhile ESSO is calculated as specified in the India Pension Plan. Government pensioners are governed by different service conditions. Therefore, granting of pension relief to erstwhile ESSO pensioners at rates applicable to the Government pensioners does not arise;

(e) Yes, Sir;

(f) The recommendations of the Fourth Pay Commission are not applicable as such to the erstwhile ESSO pensioners, nor to any Public Sector Undertaking.

Performance of Bharat Bharti Udyog Nigam Limited

3582. SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) what is the performance result after formation of Bharat Bhari Udyog Nigam Limited till March, 1988;

(b) what steps have been taken to revamp the units for making them viable;

(c) what is the number of staff employed in the Bharat Bhari Udyog Nigam, categorywise, including the Chairman and Board Members with details of salary drawn, perks etc.;

(d) whether on formation of the Holding Company additional expenses have been incurred on the constituent units; if so, the details of expenses unitwise; and

(e) what is the rationale behind the Ministry's proposals to reduce expenses on conveyance/travelling, car expenses, ban on recruitment etc. and the expenses incurred on other items including recruitment of staff and high salaries officers and others for the Holding Company?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) Bharat Bhari Udyog Nigam Limited (BBUNL) came into existence with effect from 17-9-86. BBUNL group of subsidiaries had achieved a production of Rs. 317.6 crores in